



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2015

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **sorghum** production in New Mexico is forecast at 3.29 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 31 percent from the 2.52 million bushels harvested a year earlier. Growers expect to harvest 70,000 acres this year, unchanged from the June forecast but up from the 60,000 acres harvested last year. Average yield is forecast at 47.0 bushels per acre, 5.0 bushels above last year's final yield. As of August 2, the sorghum crop condition was rated 10 percent fair, 87 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Sorghum headed was 15 percent complete, compared with 14 percent last year and the 5-year average of 12 percent.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 220,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, up 10,000 acres from 2014. Alfalfa production is forecast at 1.03 million tons, up 3 percent from 1.01 million tons produced in 2014. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 4.70 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 4.80 tons per acre.

Peanut production is forecast at 15.0 million pounds, down 3 percent from 15.5 million pounds produced in 2014. Growers expect to harvest 5,000 acres this year, unchanged from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 3,000 pounds per acre, down from 3,100 pounds per acre a year ago. As of August 2, the peanut crop condition was rated 65 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Peanuts pegging were 25 percent complete, compared with 49 percent last year and the 5-year average of 52 percent.

All **cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 77,000 480-lb bales, up 6 percent from 2014. Producers expect to harvest 66,000 bales of upland cotton and 11,000 bales of Pima cotton. Area of all cotton harvested, forecast at 31,900 acres, is down 6,400 acres from last year. The all cotton yield is forecast at 1,159 pounds per acre, up 252 pounds from 2014. As of August 2, New Mexico's cotton crop condition was rated 1 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Cotton setting bolls were 60 percent complete, compared with 59 percent last year and the 5-year average of 49 percent.

Dry bean production for 2015 is forecast at 260,000 hundredweight, up 30 percent from the 200,000 hundredweight produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 2,100 pounds per acre, up from 1,900 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 12,400 acres this year, up 1,900 acres from 10,500 acres last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Sorghum production is forecast at 573 million bushels, up 32 percent from last year. If realized, this will represent the highest production total in the United States since 1999. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 7.67 million acres, down 1 percent from June but 20 percent more than was harvested in 2014. Based on August 1 conditions, yield is forecast at a record 74.6 bushels per acre, 7 bushels above the 2014 average and 1.4 bushels higher than the previous record yield set in 2007.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2015 is forecast at 62.1 million tons, up 1 percent from 2014. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.39 tons per acre, up 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.3 million acres, unchanged from June but down slightly from 2014.

Peanut production is forecast at 6.18 billion pounds, up 19 percent from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.57 million acres, unchanged from June but 18 percent higher than 2014. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 3,950 pounds per acre, down 18 pounds from last year.

All **cotton** production is forecast at 13.1 million 480-pound bales, down 20 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 795 pounds per harvested acre, down 43 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 12.7 million 480-pound bales, down

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20 percent from 2014. Pima cotton production is forecast at 432,000 bales, down 24 percent from last year. All cotton planted area for the Nation is estimated at 8.90 million acres, down 1 percent or 100,000 acres from June.

Production of **dry edible beans** is forecast at 29.3 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.75 million acres, up 2 percent from 2014. Harvested area is forecast at 1.70 million acres, 2 percent above the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,721 pounds per acre, a decrease of 32 pounds from last season.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.